

# Newsletter

## RES IPSA LOQUITUR\*

by Priscilla Leith

There is no Master Plan for the parks, recreational facilities, and playfields in Newton to guide Parks and Recreation Commissioners and staff in making decisions regarding what should be constructed or where it should be located. The need for such a plan has long been noted, but willpower and money to produce one continue to be elusive.

The following proposals are those that have come before the Parks and Rec Commission in March, April and May, 2005. In the future, we can count on others arriving via Community Preservation Act proposals.

**ANGIER SCHOOL PLAYGROUND.** Parents from the Angier School PTO, located on Beacon St. in Waban, presented a proposal at the March meeting of the Commission to replace 1972-era equipment behind the school. Some of the new equipment is handicapped-accessible. Cost was about \$50,000 plus labor donated by two contractors. The funds were raised entirely by the Angier PTO. The equipment, dark green and beige with a few bright colors, was made by Playworld Systems/Ultiplay of Uxbridge, MA. The Commission approved it, and the new equipment was installed, and dedicated in May.

**NEWTON CENTRE PLAYGROUND.** Mr. and Mrs. Scott Miller, who live near the Newton Centre Playground, came to the March meeting with a request to present handicapped-accessible playground equipment that would be installed at the present site of a playground for small children. The Millers have a handicapped son who is unable to use the existing equipment. Estimated cost is \$400,000, some of which will be donated by the Millers and some of which they will raise with assistance from the United Cerebral Palsy Association. Sheri Wasserman,

Director of Marketing for United Cerebral Palsy, was present. Plans for the site and the equipment, made by Miracle Recreational Equipment Co., were presented to the Commission. The proposal has some swings for children in wheel-chairs, other handicapped-friendly equipment, a four foot fence, and two gates. There is a "reserve account" for future maintenance costs. Construction would be in Spring, 2006.

This proposal required a public hearing which was held April 7 at "The Hut" in the NC Playground. Attendance was not heavy, but there were apparently some worthwhile suggestions and comments. However, no revisions had been made to the plan when the item returned to the Parks and Rec Commission at its April 25 meeting. A summary of the hearing was given: there is community consensus supporting handicapped-accessible equipment; because interaction between able-bodied and handicapped children is desirable, there should be modifications in the equipment to promote this kind of activity; and, there are questions about the best site for the handicapped-accessible equipment vis-a-vis the proposed asphalt pathway and the proposed parking.

Comments and Questions by the Commissioners. What about a comprehensive plan (Master Plan)? We need to think about where we want to place things (in this park). There are (now) 3 projects going on at once that affect the Newton Centre Playground: this one, a Community Preservation Act proposal for NC Playground, and one at Mason-Rice Playground.

At the April meeting, Commissioners again lamented the lack of a Master Plan for this park, and they agreed that planning ought to play a role in deciding where this equipment should go. Alternate Commissioner Mike Clarke said, "We are the Commissioners of the Parks - we are the experts (not the advisers here)." He did not want to approve the site without seeing the plans.

**Decision:**

*The Commission voted 5-2-1 to approve the "concept" of the proposal, subject to further review of the final plans.*

**MASON-RICE PLAYGROUND.** Three parents and principal Mark Springer came to the April meeting with a proposal to go on school department land behind the school. The property is adjacent to the Newton Centre Playground, where two other projects are pending.

*Continued on page 7*

\*The title selected by the author is Latin for "We are still talking about the same thing"

## LWVN Officers and Directors 2004-2005

### STEERING COMMITTEE

Bonnie Carter	617-969-0686
Amelia Koch	617-244-2647
Ann Grantham	617-964-0333
Sharyn Roberts	617-969-9588
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Environment	Martha Richmond	617-244-2076

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Members:	Ruby Ajanee Carol Ann Shea

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Handbook	Robin Maltz	617-969-1554
Human Rights	Holly Gunner	617-964-0767
Legislature Roundtable	Ruby Ajanee	617-243-9888
Local Action	Deb Crossley Co-chair	617-244-7597
Membership	Elaine Reisman Co-chair	617-244-6439
Topic Meetings	Pat Acton	617-965-5572
	Linda Morrison	617-332-6539
Recycling	Barbara Herson	617-964-7463
Web Site	Judy Jaffe	617-969-7427

### NEWSLETTER

Editor	Ann Grantham	617-964-0333
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The LWVN Newsletter is published nine times per year. The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization open to all citizens of voting age. For more information about the League of Women Voters, call 617-964-0014.

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<http://www.lwvn.ma.lwvnet.org>

# The "Lost Speech"

From Annual Meeting 2005

Amelia Koch

*At this year's dinner, our Keynote Speaker, author and former Globe reporter Laura Pappano, so engaged us with her speech on The Politics of Girls' and Women's Sports that Amelia failed to notice Pappano making off with the notes for her speech, which was to open the Annual Meeting. But now the lost has been found, and these notes have been condensed below for your enjoyment.*

For personal reasons, I have been less involved in the League this year than in any year since I joined, and so I came to the task of writing this with almost an outsider's viewpoint. I talked to board members and reviewed a year's worth of excellent newsletters and a plethora of emails to come up with the local action log.

I can confidently report to you that your Newton League has had an amazing year.

I want to begin by thanking this year's leadership team. This was our first year using a steering committee and while I know it had its shortcomings, such as the lack of an obvious point person, it also had some interesting strengths. These included: **Ann Grantham, Bonnie Carter, Sue Rosenbaum, and Beth Lowd** along with **Deb Crossley** and **Ruby Ajanee**, who were alternates but played like starters. Thank you, and all of our Board members, for the many times you stepped forward and said "I'll do it" and did!

Your Board wrote letters commenting on high performance buildings, pay raises for city officials, proposed zoning changes, policies and procedures in Parks and Recreation meetings, and many letters on Community Preservation Act proposals. Your Board wrote editorials and letters to the editor, gave testimony and observed proceedings. And that doesn't include extensive voter's service efforts and coordinating unit meetings. Wow!

Your Newton League had a board member who received the State League Dyna-Member Award. This new award goes to League members of less than 5 years who brought extraordinary ideas and energy to the League. Among many other tasks, **Sharyn Roberts** was responsible for registering over 2,000 voters. Two other members, **Andreae Downs** and **Sue Rosenbaum**, were recognized as Dyna-Member honorable mentions.

#### Your League also won four New TV awards:

1. **The Red Carpet Award of Excellence** for Field Production with the most Community Impact for "Fair Districts for Fair Elections"  
*Produced by Beth Lowd, Tony Mastantuono*
2. **The Award for Excellence for Community Impact** for "Candidate's Forum" Barney Frank vs. Chuck Morse debate for Congress  
*Produced by Newton LWV, Tony Mastantuono*
3. **Newton Community Access Center (NCAC) Award** for "Why Equal Legal Protections for Gay & Lesbian Families?"  
*Produced by Holly Gunner, Mike Padden-Rubin*
4. **The Municipal Access Honorable Mention Certificate** for "Newton Legislative Roundtable,"  
*Produced by Amelia Koch/Newton LWV with Michael Padden-Rubin*

*Continued on page six*

# Jane Leighton Award

*Presented at the Annual Meeting – May 26, 2005*

This evening we will present the Jane Leighton Volunteer of the Year Award for 2005.

Here are some clues about the identity of our recipient:

- 1 She is a night owl. Members receive Emails from her written at 3 in the morning.
- 2 She is a fitness buff.
- 3 She loves to drive a stick shift.
- 4 She has been actively involved in her children's school and sports activities.
- 5 She is the daughter and daughter-in-law of League members.
- 6 She loves "mojitas" (according to her convention buddies.)
- 7 She has a Phd. in Chemistry.

The recipient of the Jane Leighton Award for 2005 is ..... *Sue Rosenbaum.*

There are several ways in which Sue fits the profile of a Jane Leighton Award winner:

Sue has contributed her wisdom and strength to further the goals of the League over the past four years.

She was our expert on Free Air Time Legislation federal legislation.

She was an observer of the Community Preservation Committee and read and evaluated proposals.

She served as Voter Service Chair for the local elections of 2003, which had 54 candidates on the ballot. At that time she met other night owls, dropping off materials at her house at 3 in the morning.

Sue was a delegate to the 2004 National League Convention in Washington, D.C. and embraced all the meetings and caucuses.

She has been enthusiastic to learn about issues and take advantage of League workshops. At our State Convention earlier this month Sue attended the workshops on how to be a moderator.

She is a strong mentor for new members. This past year she mentored Sharyn Roberts in Voter Service and over 2000 new voters were registered. They spoke to students at Newton North and held a mock election at an elementary school.

Throughout it all she has accepted with goodwill the tasks at hand and we all have admired the way she has balanced her life with her children, her husband, her profession and the League. ■

## Welcome New Members!

HALINA BROWN

56 Cloverdale Rd, Newton 02461 617-243-0744 [hbrown@clarku.edu](mailto:hbrown@clarku.edu)

GEORGE FOORD, JR.

130 Winslow Rd., Waban 02468-1741 617-969-8360 [georgefoord@aol.com](mailto:georgefoord@aol.com)

LAURA PAPPANO – TOM LYNCH FAMILY

131 Prince St, W. Newton 02465 617-332-6431 [LPapp@aol.com](mailto:LPapp@aol.com)

TAMI ROBERTS

1945 Commonwealth Ave, Apt. #21, Brighton 02135 617-782-2066  
[tbamanoos@aol.com](mailto:tbamanoos@aol.com)

TOM SHEFF

454 Dudley Road, Newton 02459 617-795-7076 [abhinc@hotmail.com](mailto:abhinc@hotmail.com)

GREER SWISTON

80 Orchard Ave, W. Newton 02465 617-965-6008 [gswiston@alum.mit.edu](mailto:gswiston@alum.mit.edu)

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS

SOPHIE DANZIGER

CECELIA HEILIGMAN

JANE LEIGHTON

DORIS LELHOOK

ELAINE REISMAN

FLORENCE RUBIN

SUZANNE SPATZ

If you joined the League in 1955 or before, please let us know. There is a policy that you need not pay dues after 50 years of membership.

Sharyn Roberts 617-969-9588.

*Local Action*



The Honorable Mayor David B. Cohen  
City of Newton  
Alderman Lisle Baker, President  
Board of Aldermen  
1000 Homer Street  
Newton, MA

June 6, 2005

RE: Energy Management Plan is Critical to City Budget

Dear Mayor Cohen,

The League of Women Voters commends the City and the Newton Citizen's Commission on Energy for completing its Energy Action Plan (EAP) targeting citywide reductions of energy use and carbon emissions. We urge the City to take steps to aggressively implement this plan.

The League of Women Voters believes that natural resources must be conserved and protected to assure their future availability. By completing the EAP Newton has joined other progressive communities nationwide in recognizing the need to reduce energy consumption and to work to avert the serious consequences of global warming. We agree with the Energy Commission that if the City of Newton takes a strong lead to implement the plan in the public sector, with good publicity and outreach, those in the private sector will follow.

Specifically, LWVN calls upon the City to support the following recommendations from the EAP:

**Establish a formal position of Energy Officer for the City:** The present position of Senior Electrical Engineer should be expanded to include managing the implementation of Newton's energy action plan. The reallocation of staff resources achieves significant benefits for all of Newton at no additional labor cost.

**Establish an Energy Investment Fund:** The recently unveiled city budget indicated an increased expenditure of \$300,000 for energy in the upcoming fiscal year. Furthermore, if no action is taken to tune up our public facilities, it is conservatively forecast that an additional \$300,000 will be required each year following simply to maintain the present facilities. Undertaking an energy efficiency program will gain control of these costs. The EAP has identified many opportunities to improve Newton's 2.7 million square feet of public buildings, as well as outdoor lighting and vehicle fleet. As the next step we suggest that detailed individual audits of public facilities be undertaken. Funds will be needed to offset the cost of audits and for implementation of energy efficient measures. This funding could come from a number of sources. NSTAR and KEYSpan offer matching funds for audits and further engineering requirements; they also provide incentives for equipment installation. Other funding sources include a city bond or performance contracting. While all approaches represent viable options, the city may gain less from energy savings if others cover the costs. An alternative approach is to seek grant support from funding organizations committed to environmental concerns. The City's leadership in this area can be a model for private-public sector cooperation and investment.

**Involve the Citizen's Commission on Energy in Site Plan Review:** The Citizens Commission on Energy, through the Energy Officer, should be involved in the land use planning approval process. Presently, to obtain zoning variances, petitioners must provide such community betterments as site water management, tree replacement and underground electrical connections. Why not include building performance standards at the same time? This would ensure that new or renovated buildings would consume relatively less energy, and, unlike other city betterments, would pay back the initial costs by way of lowered utility bills in a few years.

The EAP outlines clear steps for Newton to begin addressing the serious problems associated with energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and out of control operating expenses. We urge the City to act without delay to implement these steps.

Respectfully,

Amelia S Koch  
League of Women Voters of Newton

Environmental Issues Committee

# Looking to the Future

by Martha Richmond

In the upcoming year the LWV Environmental Issues Committee will focus on following the design & development of the new Newton North High School as a high performance building. We plan to assist the High Performance Building Coalition in promoting citizen education. In addition, we will continue to support the adoption and implementation of the Energy Action Plan (EAP) developed by the Citizens Commission on Energy. We believe that through these two important initiatives and policy directions, the City will be demonstrating its commitment to environmental sustainability, reducing energy consumption, and lessening production of greenhouse gases. Furthermore, if Newton North High School is constructed according to high performance building standards, the City will be implementing – in a clearly visible manner-- many of the objectives set forth in the EAP. This may lead to adoption of beneficial citywide energy management policies, a key EAP objective. Construction of a high performance building offers the City a unique opportunity to be an example for other communities.

The Environmental Issues Committee is drafting questions regarding high performance buildings as a future policy direction; we hope to pose these questions to all candidates in the upcoming municipal elections. We are also considering co-sponsoring a public event with the Green Decade Coalition, early in 2006.

The Committee welcomes suggestions from all LWVN members. Please contact Martha Richmond (martha.richmond@rcn.com) with your ideas/suggestions. The Committee also encourages others who are interested in issues of energy use and management and in environmental sustainability to participate in Committee meetings. The next scheduled meeting will be Friday, September 9 at 9 AM. ■

## Committees - in - Action

### Local Action

Contact: Andreae Downs, Chair 617-969-7123

### Observers

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Andreae Downs Amelia Koch  
Andrea Kelley Priscilla Leith

ELECTION COMMISSION

Nancy Criscitiello

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Martha Richmond

FINANCE COMMITTEE, BOARD OF ALDERMAN

Ruby Ajanee Amelia Koch

NEWTON FREE LIBRARY BOARD

Mary Adelstein

NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION

Priscilla Leith

### Representatives

NEWTON CITIZEN COMMISSION ON ENERGY

Deb Crossley, LWVN Representative

SUSTAINABLE NEWTON COMMITTEE

Sharyn Roberts, LWVN Representative

### Committees

CPC LEAGUE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Focus To follow the process of the granting of Community Preservations funds.

#### Members

Anna Maria Abernathy Jody Klein  
Barbara Bix Myra Tattenbaum  
Deb Crossley

Contact Andreae Downs, Chair 617-969-7123

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

Focus Promoting source reduction and recycling programs in municipal offices and public schools

#### Members

Deb Crossley Robin Maltz  
Katherine Gekas Sharyn Roberts  
Barbara Herson Heather Tausig  
Beth Lowd Linda Walden

Contact Martha Richmond 617-244-2076

Feel free to call committee contacts or a Board officer or director to learn more.

# Wedding Bells

Congratulations to

Holly Gunner & Anne Chalmers

June 5, 2005

## Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

My Email address may be shared with State and National LWV

- I would like to join the League of Women voters of Newton. Enclosed is my check for \$50 payable to LWVN.
- Lifetime membership \$1000
- I would like to receive materials about the League.
- I would like to be contacted by a League member to talk about LWVN.

Mail this form (and your check, if joining) to:  
Andrea Kozinetz Holtz at 8 Stoney Brae Road,  
Newton Highlands, MA 02461

*From the Steering Committee*

## The “Lost Speech”

*Continued from page two*

**Ann Grantham** was not only on the steering committee but also edited the newsletter, which all agree had another excellent year. Ann’s gentle, helpful manner makes her a pleasure to work with and we are all grateful to her for opening her home for the monthly working board meetings.

Our tie to NewTV is only one of many assets that **Bonnie Carter** brought this year. Bonnie is another of those people who pick up pieces, and this year managed to do so despite back surgery mid-year. We are glad to see her healing. She managed the consensus for the State League Voting Systems study and she gathered a bylaws committee!

**Beth Lowd** ran a very successful campaign for fair districts and participated faithfully from her winter home. Beth took a hand at writing for the League both in the newsletter and to the editor. We are very glad to have her returning next year.

**Sue Rosenbaum** – I’m not sure what I can add about the Jane Leighton award winner except I’m glad she’s coming back, too!!

**Ruby Ajanee** coordinated Legislative Roundtable for us and will continue to do that off-board next year. She also regularly volunteers and participates in letters and meetings. We will miss her energy for many reasons but we know her interests are more international than local.

I think I could write pages on **Deb Crossley**. Her energy (and her work on the energy commission) is legendary. She has always gone above and beyond in everything she does. She is known for her advocacy for affordable housing both for the League and professionally. This year also saw Deb working for high performance buildings, for the comprehensive planning process, for the envi-

ronmental committee, for monitoring the CPC. It just doesn’t end and neither does her willingness to edit letters and come up with good ideas. She has promised to keep a toe in the water while stepping back next year.

**Sharyn Roberts** – Our award winning voters service chair. It was wonderful the extent to which Sharyn and Sue became engaged with college students and high school students and with the many other opportunities that came our way. Clever persistent, persuasive, amazing! And yes, there were debates and voters guides too. Of course it didn’t end there as Sharyn worked with newsletter advertisers and came to working board offering exciting updates, good stories and willingness to help.

**Andreae Downs** – as a newcomer this year Andreae got involved and engaged quickly, using her good writing skills and her attentive observing. She was key to following the CPA proposals and this year is co-chairing a newly-energized Local Action Committee with Deb Crossley.

**Andrea Kozinetz** – Quietly making sure that we have enough postage and that bills are paid and memberships renewed. It is a load off of everyone’s mind that Andrea has agreed to return next year

**Martha Richmond** – co-chaired the Environmental Issues Committee, and ran the unit meeting on high performance buildings.

**Pat Acton** – Taking the minutes is tougher than you’d think, as Pat can attest. We will miss Pat next year and thank her for her many years working at so many different tasks for the League.

**Andrea Kelley** – has been coordinating Public Relations for the Board this

year. She was also a regular at working board, and worked on the CPC proposal review. She managed to work around her own full schedule and was always on the look-out for ways to plug in and be helpful.

**Jody Klein** handled membership, and even managed to write for the newsletter despite having a job and three children, the youngest an infant.

**Judy Jaffe** this year launched our new, redesigned web site, and you can see all her good work at [www.lwvn.ma.lwvnet.org](http://www.lwvn.ma.lwvnet.org).

I want to say a special thanks to **Priscilla Leith** for leading the effort to track and comment on CPC proposals. This was one of our highest priorities and she spent much time observing, helped with letters, and tracked the progress of proposals. As one Board member put it “I think her diligent work held it all together while allowing everyone to contribute.” All CPC proposals were reviewed and commented on and many have already been approved for funding. The League should be proud of its work in helping to pass the CPA and in supporting its implementation. There is a great need for continued vigilance at the local level where an articulate non-partisan viewpoint is always needed.

I also want to thank **Janet Stearns** and the Nominating Committee for all of their excellent work. I am very pleased with the balance of new and returning board members. Thank you also to the many board members who have agreed to serve for the coming year and to those who have moved on to other phases of your lives. May you stay connected. Thank-you Bonnie Carter, Ann Grantham, Sue Rosenbaum, and Sharyn Roberts for your willingness to step into the key leadership roles as members of the steering committee.

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I want to say thank-you to these women and to all League members. League members are not always easy, but they are smart women who care. They care about their families, their schools, their cities, and their country. You are The League of Women Voters of Newton and you make us proud! ■

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# RES IPSA LOQUITUR\*

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

*Continued from page one*

The request was to remove an old fire engine in a 4,000 sq. ft. space behind the school and replace it with a handicapped-accessible play area: a picnic table with 2 benches and 2 open ends for wheel chairs; and a shade cover above the table; a play piano; and, 4 swings, one handicapped-accessible. The area would have wheelchair-accessible paving. Cost was estimated at \$75,000. The money is being raised by the parents and PTO, some coming from the Spina Bifida Society, a public charity.

A lot of discussion ensued, centering around the wisdom of approving another project that is not part of a Master Plan, and the use of private donations. Should this project wait for a Master Plan to be developed? Should this project be "merged" with those proposed for the Newton Centre Playground next door? What is the role of the Parks and Recreation Commission vs. the role of the Department staff? (Who are the "experts" vs. the "advisors"?)

A suggestion that Mason-Rice children ought to use the NC Playground for recess periods elicited comments from the parents and principal about conflicts between School Department regulations about recess, and the need for use of the NC Playground and the Mason-Rice playground for all children.

#### **Decision:**

*The Commission approved, 5-3, the request to substitute a March hearing held on this proposal by the Newton Conservation Commission, at which there was no opposition, for a separate hearing by the Parks and Recreation Commission... although no Parks and Rec Commissioners had attended that hearing. Second, the Commission approved, somewhat reluctantly, by 7-1, the Mason-Rice proposal without drawing up a Master Plan. More than one*

*Commissioner noted that this should not set a precedent for approving proposals without a Master Plan. Another responded that this is about the fourth time the Commission has done so, and the precedent has already been set.*

**NEWTON HIGHLANDS PLAYGROUND.** Paul Greene of the neighborhood and Stephanie Pelkowski of the staff presented some plans to replace the Tot Lot equipment at Whitmore Field, located off Dedham St. near Route 9 in Newton Highlands. There has been input from various people in the neighborhood. The equipment will be handicapped-accessible. Funds will be raised, and this playground is due to receive Marathon money in 2006 which will go toward the cost of the project. The group plans to use the umbrella of the Brigham House to have non-profit status for their fundraising. The area is about 3,000 sq. ft. Cost is \$54,000. One Commissioner suggested doing a study of exactly where on the playground parents are likely to congregate, as the chosen location near the tennis courts may not be best. Another Commissioner suggested the group apply for funds to do a Master Plan for this park in the next round of CPA funding. The Commission unanimously approved the "concept" of this proposal. Proponents will be back another time with specifics.

**NAHANTON PARK.** At the May meeting representatives from Bayer Environmental Science Co. and the Waltham Chemical Co. offered a one-year "gift" project to "eradicate" ticks that might be present at Nahanton Park and might spread Lyme disease. They would install black boxes about 6" x 6" x 2" at various locations in the park. The boxes hold a device that allow mice to enter, then douses them with a chemical called "Fipronil" and releases the

mice back into the park. Fipronil will kill any fleas and ticks on the mice. The usual cost of this treatment is \$3,000-\$4,000 annually. In return for giving the first year free, the companies would use this as a marketing demonstration for publicity. (It was later alleged by someone in attendance that Bayer and/or Waltham Chemical would also control all the results of the project and any publicity about it; the city would not retain control over the information.)

Duane Hillis of the Newton Conservators, and a neighbor of Nahanton Park, and Ellie Goldberg of Healthy Kids and the Green Decade Coalition, spoke at length against the proposal. Questions about the Fipronil project from Duane Hillis had not been answered as of the May 16 meeting.

It was not clear exactly how this item got to the Parks and Rec Commission without a formal written recommendation from the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Committee. The genesis seems to have been from one man walking his dog who thought he saw a tick and called the city Health Department and/or the Parks and Recreation Department. It was not known whether there are any deer ticks (the type that carry Lyme disease) at Nahanton Park. No one has ever seen any such ticks, and there are 80 gardeners using the gardens adjacent to Nahanton Park each year, as well as many walkers. And there are no known cases of Lyme disease traced to Nahanton Park.

#### **Decision:**

*A motion was approved, 5-1-1 to "table" this proposal, with the understanding that it will postpone any such project in 2005. It could be considered in 2006. ■*



**JOHN T. BURNS  
AGENCY, INC.**

803 Washington Street  
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**Fleet**

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Fleet  
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1160 Walnut Street  
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*Our politics may lean to the left,  
 but our work...NEVER!*

*LWVN Representative Report*

**Sustainable Newton Committee**

June 21, 2005

*Present: Peter Smith - chair pro-tem,  
 Paul Anastasi, Michele Davis, Charles Eisenberg,  
 Elaine Gentile, Ira Krepchin, Sharyn Roberts,  
 Bob Rooney, Carolyn Sarno, Beth Schroeder*

*Absent: David DelPorto*

Items of Business:

**Meetings with Department Heads:** The committee would like to meet with departments heads of the city to help them attain their sustainable environmental goals.

**Newton South High School:** Aldermen will continue to discuss the repairs needed in July.

**Newton North High School:** RFQ is complete and packets have been sent out.

**Energy Commission:** In searching for lower power rates, an electrical distribution enterprise may be examined, as they do in Belmont.

**Lighting:** The city has purchased a new bucket truck to oversee the maintenance and replacement of high efficiency bulbs which will improve our energy efficiency.

**EAP (Energy Action Plan)** as David Tannozzini retires, a replacement Energy Officer is needed.

**Schools:** Boilers at Bowen, Burr, Ward and Horace Mann need attention. Windows at Peirce need replacing.

**Solid Waste Commission (SWC):** A summer intern has been hired to work with businesses about their paper and cardboard disposal. The intern will look at non-profits such as Newton Wellesley Hospital as well.

Sharyn Roberts ■

## LWVN CALENDAR

### July

- 5 Tuesday 7:30 p.m. **Membership Committee** meeting at the home of Robin Maltz, 28 Chatham Rd., Newton Highlands, 617-969-1554
- 11 Monday 9:30 a.m. **Unit Organization Committee** meeting at the home of Pat Acton, 48 Miller Rd., Newton Centre, 617-965-5572
- 13 Wednesday 7:15p.m. **Board Meeting** at the home of Sue Rosenbaum, 121 Winslow Rd., Waban, 617-332-0306. Chair: Amelia
- 28 Thursday 7:30 p.m., **Working Board/Potluck** meeting at the home of Ann Grantham, 46 East Side Pkwy, Newtonville, 617-964-0333. Chair: Amelia

### August

- 10 Wednesday 7:15 p.m. **Board Meeting** at the home of Roberta Leviton, 84 Sumner St., Newton Center, 617-965-2775. Chair: Amelia
- 10 September Newsletter Deadline
- 25 Thursday 6:30 p.m. **Working Board/Potluck** meeting at the home of Ann Grantham, 46 East Side Pkwy, Newtonville, 617-964-0333. Chair: Amelia
- 31 Wednesday 8 p.m. – Last hour and day to register to vote for the September 20, 2005 **City Preliminary Election**, Election Commission Office, Rm 105, Newton City Hall.

### Election Dates

Tuesday, September 20, 2005    City Preliminary Election Day  
 Tuesday, November 8, 2005    Municipal Election Day

### Legislative Roundtable



For current schedule log on to [www.newtv.org](http://www.newtv.org)

## League of Women Voters of Newton



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